

THE RICHMOND CLIMAX.

38th YEAR

RICHMOND, MADISON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1912

NUMBER 28

For Best

"Kanawha Salt"

See

L. R. Blanton

Telephone 85

"IS THERE A SANTA CLAUS?"

The Kindest, Sweetest Answer Ever Given to the Question.

Every year, when the spirit of Christmas makes even the air tingle with its happenings and its joy of giving, there comes from some questioning little pair of lips the query: "Is there a Santa Claus?" A million times has it been asked, and in a million varied ways has it been answered. But perhaps the kindest, sweetest answer of all was given years ago in the editorial columns of the New York Sun. The writer is dead, but the reply to Virginia will live as long as children ask the old, old question. Here it is:

"We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of the Sun.

"Dear Editor: I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, 'If you see it in the Sun it's so.' Please tell me the truth: Is there a Santa Claus?"

VIRGINIA O'HANLON,
115 West Ninety-fifth street.
"Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehended by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole truth and knowledge.

"Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to our life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be this world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

"Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus, coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn?"

Of course not, but that's no proof that they were not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world. "You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

"No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, my ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."

Re-Districting Bill Tentatively Drafted.

The joint redistricting committee has made a tentative draft of the bill which will be submitted to the Legislature. The Congressional changes follow: Christian, taken from the second and put into the first district; Ohio, taken from the fourth and put into the second; Butler, taken from the third and put into the fourth. Adair, taken from the eleventh and put into the eighth; Hart and Green, taken from the fourth and put into the third; Casey, taken from the eleventh and put into the eighth; Clark, taken from the tenth and put into the eighth; Trimble, Carroll and Gallatin, taken from the sixth and put into the seventh; Robertson, Mason and Bracken, taken from the ninth and put into the sixth; Montgomery, Menifee, Morgan and Elliott, taken from the tenth and put into the ninth; Perry, Owsley, Jackson and Letcher, taken from the eleventh and put into the tenth.

Two districts are changed in the appellate districts. Webster and Union counties are taken from the first and put into the second districts. Clark, Powell, Estill and Lee counties are taken from the seventh and put into the sixth.

The changes in the circuit judicial districts contemplated follow: A new district is composed of Marshall, Lyon, Crittenden and Livingston. Franklin and Anderson comprise districts No. 33. Ballard and Carlisle counties are taken from the first and put into the second. Hancock is taken from the sixth and put into the ninth. McLean is taken from the sixth and put into the fourth. Adair is taken from the twenty-ninth and put into the tenth.

Returns to Madison

Charles Harvey and son, Levi, who sold their farm in October and moved to Illinois to reside, have returned to Baldwin, this county, to make their permanent home. They have purchased a farm, and have erected a substantial residence in the Baldwin neighborhood.

Farewell, 1911.

After a week's rest from the monotonous cares and responsibilities of editing and managing a paper, we return to our duties with the New Year with refreshed nerves and renewed vigor, and our aim will be to give to THE CLIMAX readers during the ensuing year a better, newer paper than was issued during the year that has passed into history. With the new equipment added to the mechanical department of THE CLIMAX during 1911, we are in a better position than ever before to properly and promptly execute orders for work of the highest class, from a visiting card to the most artistic book work. It would, indeed, be a revelation to most of our citizens to visit THE CLIMAX and see for themselves the quality of printing that comes from our presses. These things have been made possible by our friends and patrons, and we are, indeed, grateful for the splendid patronage accorded us during the year just closed and hope for a continuance during the new year. So wishing all our readers a joyous and prosperous New Year that will bring all the good things hoped for, we bid farewell to 1911.

Local Option Compromise.

A press dispatch from Frankfurt says: "A compromise county unit local option measure will be offered to the Legislature this month, and it is believed it will be acceptable to both sides of the long-drawn-out fight. The compromise bill will provide that whenever 50 per cent or a majority of the voters of any city in the State shall, for a vote on the liquor question, a vote shall be taken as to whether or not liquor shall be sold in that city, the vote to be taken irrespective of the fact that the whole county may have previously voted dry. The present law provides that where 25 per cent or only one-fourth of the voters in cities of the first, second, third and fourth classes sign a petition asking for a vote on the liquor question the vote shall be taken."

Never a Word.

Not long ago a clergyman was called upon to conduct the services at the funeral of a man with whom he had had no communication. So, thinking to glean a useful hint or two touching the deceased's character when he was shown into the living room, the divine called a little boy of 8, evidently a member of the family, and put to him this question:

"Can you tell me what were the last words of your father?"

"He didn't have any," responded the lad with the utmost naivete. "Ma was with him to the last."

Secure New Location.

Messrs. J. T. Cobb and T. H. Collins have leased the new office rooms over Southern National Bank and will move thereto this week. These rooms are heated with steam and are in every way attractive and convenient.

THE PINK LADY

Is To Be Seen in Lexington January 5th and 6th.

The engagement extraordinary of Klaw & Erlanger's musical comedy drama "The Pink Lady" which is to be seen at the Lexington Opera House Friday and Saturday and Saturday matinee, January 5th and 6th, brings to Lexington the most talked of hit that the American stage has known in a decade. The piece has never failed to arouse interest and already has a chain of records to its credit that would make other things look small in comparison. It has broken all records in Boston following its sensational engagement in New York City where it ran for a year.

Another company played one week in Pittsburgh to the enormous receipts of \$23,405, which included a special Thanksgiving matinee and yet which is a record that will hardly be equalled again in a long time. In Washington which is ordinarily a one week stand the company played two weeks to gross receipts that ran close to \$40,000, thereby setting a new mark which will stand for a long time in the capital of the nation.

The company to present "The Pink Lady" in Lexington is the newest and prettiest organization Klaw & Erlanger have identified with this their pet attraction. It numbers one hundred people and includes a cast that was selected as to its individual strength. In addition the chorus is known as the pink of perfection part of the performance and the famous Pink Lady Orchestra that played Ivan Caryll, a delightful score all through the New York run is traveling with the company and will take over the orchestra pit in Lexington allowing the local musicians a holiday while the big musical is in the opera house.

This should prove a delightful part of the local presentations, for the music requires subtle treatment to bring out its niceties and though you may be familiar with the leading strains of the score you will not have experienced its delight until you hear it played by the orchestra that first made the music popular in this country.

Equal Rights for Women.

Such of the members and friends of the Equal Rights Association of Kentucky as have not, up to the present time, made a free-will offering of money for the present year to be used for the purpose of obtaining for women equal protection of our laws with men on the right of suffrage, and yet desire to do this, will please call upon Mrs. Ed. McCann and leave their offerings of money with her as early as possible.

ELLEN N. GIBSON,
Corresponding Secretary of the Madison County Division of the Equal Rights Association of Kentucky.

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GREETING

The year just closed has been very satisfactory for us and we thank those who have helped us. We realize that our success comes from the support we receive from those who patronized us. Therefore, we adopt this method to extend our New Year Greetings to one and all. During the incoming year we shall endeavor, more than ever before, to satisfy all with whom it is our good fortune to do business.

Our most hearty good wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year

HAMILTON BROTHERS